

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: : Confirmation No.:
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Rodney James DRY et al. : Group Art Unit:
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Serial No.: : Examiner:
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Filed: April 12, 2004 :
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For: DIRECT SMELTING PLANT :
AND PROCESS :
McLean, Virginia
April 12, 2004

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

This Preliminary Amendment is being filed contemporaneously with the filing of a new United States patent application on April 12, 2004. Please amend the application as indicated below.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin at page 3 of this paper.